

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (FL-16), who serves on the House Armed Services and Intelligence Committees, today introduced a resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the President should adhere to the War Powers Resolution and obtain Congressional authorization for military action in Libya by May 18, or end the military campaign.

“The Obama Administration has already violated the War Powers Act by using military force without Congressional Authorization when there was no imminent threat to our national security. This resolution gives Congress a chance to go on record demanding that the President respect the law and respect our constitutional authority,” Rooney said.

Under the War Powers Act, if the President uses military force without authorization from Congress, he must obtain that authorization or bring an end to military action within 60 days. “The president has limited authority to use military force without congressional authorization when there is an imminent national security threat, but he made clear that he acted for humanitarian, not national security, reasons. That violates the War Powers Act. The president must have congressional authorization for this mission to continue. A U.N. resolution is no substitute for approval by Congress.”

Rooney served in the U.S. Army JAG Corps and taught Constitutional Law at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

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